

VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

March 31, 2014

VMERS Members present:

STEVEN JEFFREY, Chairperson, Employer Representative (term expiring July 1, 2014)

PETER AMONS, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2016)

ELIZABETH PEARCE, Vermont State Treasurer

Board members absent:

THOMAS GOLONKA, Employer Representative (term expiring July 1, 2016)

DAVID ROWLEE, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2014)

Also attending:

Mark DiStefano, Attorney General's Office

James Callahan, Town of Weathersfield

Katie Green, Investments Manager

Laurie Lanphear, Director of Retirement Operations

Monica Chiren, Assistant to Tina Kawecki

The Chairperson, Steven Jeffrey, called the Monday, March 31, 2014 meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., which was held in the Treasurer's Conference Room, fourth floor, 109 State Street, Montpelier, VT.

ITEM 1: Approve the minutes of February 21, 2014

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of February 21, 2014, as submitted.

ITEM 2: Discussion/Act on disability retirement recommendations for:

- Michael Whitcomb
- Howard Papineau

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the MRB to allow the disability retirements for Michael Whitcomb and Howard Papineau, without review.

ITEM 3: Town of Weathersfield issue

Ms. Lanphear reviewed with the Board members the letter dated March 26, 2014 addressed to Mr. Mullen. The Board discussed how an entity can apply for membership to VMERS.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of staff and to follow the three bulleted paragraphs outlined in the letter dated March 26, 2014 addressed to Mr. Mullen from Ms. Lanphear.

The Board discussed the penalty phase of the issue. Mr. Callahan presented to the Board a letter dated March 28, 2014 addressed to Ms. Lanphear from Mr. Mullen.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board voted unanimously to waive the penalty under § 5064(e) against the Town of Weathersfield as detailed in the letter dated March 26, 2014 from Ms. Lanphear to Mr. Mullen.

(Mr. DiStefano and Mr. Callahan left the meeting.)

ITEM 4: Discuss/Act on addition of Fossil-Free Mutual Fund to Defined Contribution Plan

Ms. Pearce discussed with the Board members the addition of a fossil-free mutual fund to the Defined Contribution Plan. Ms. Pearce advised the Board members the divestment bill has been defeated this year. Ms. Pearce indicated if VMERS adopts the fossil-free fund for their Defined Contribution plan she would do the same for VSERS since she is the custodian of their plan.

Ms. Green reviewed the Fund Performance Review for the fossil-free mutual fund with the Board members. Ms. Green responded to the questions posed by the Board members.

On motion by Mr. Amons, seconded by Ms. Pearce, the Board voted unanimously to add the Pax World Global Environmental Fund to the VMERS Defined Contribution Plan.

ITEM 5: Discuss upcoming VMERS Employer and Employee Trustee elections

The Board discussed the need for having elections this year. The Board briefly reviewed the procedures.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Annual Election Procedures as adopted by the VMERS Board for the Employer and Employee Trustee position.

ITEM 6: Any other business to come before the Board

Ms. Pearce provided the Board members a legislative update and indicated how bills were progressing. The Board discussed the new GASB rules. The Board discussed the RFP for actuarial services.

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board voted unanimously to enter Executive Session at 11:01 a.m. pursuant to Title 1, § 313 for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations.

(The Board exited Executive Session at 11:14 a.m.)

Ms. Lanphear provided the Board members a copy of a survey that was going to be sent to the libraries to obtain additional information. Mr. Jeffrey indicated the Board members will review the survey and contact Ms. Lanphear with any suggested changes.

ITEM 7: Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Pearce, seconded by Mr. Amons, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 11:15 a.m.

Next Meeting Date:

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Kaweck
Secretary to the Board